

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 1-20 were previously pending in this application. Claims 1-20 remain pending, with claims 1, 6, 15 and 17 being independent. Claims 1, 5, 6, 13, 15, 19 and 20 have been amended.

Interview Summary

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview on August 8, 2006.

During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the drawings submitted electronically on August 7, 2007 are acceptable. The Examiner requested a further change to claim 1 which is reflected in the amendment above. Additionally, the Examiner requested that “backup and/or restore” be replaced by the phrase “backup and restore, or backup, or restore.”

Drawings

Figures 3, 4 and 4A have been redrawn and separately submitted as replacement sheets on August 7, 2007. Accordingly, the objections to the drawings should be removed.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 1, 6, 14-17 and 20 because they recite “backup and/or restore.” As agreed during the interview, this phrase has been replaced by “backup and restore, or backup, or restore.” This changes does not alter the meaning of the claim, but resolves the issue as to the form of the claim.

The Examiner objected to claim 13 because it recites a “pair of communication mechanism.” The claim has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to recite a “pair of communication mechanisms” (plural). Accordingly, the objection to claim 13 should be removed.

The Examiner objected to claim 17, also because it recites a “communication mechanism” (singular). However, claim 17 differs from claim 13 in that, rather than reciting a pair of mechanisms, claim 17 recites a “first communication mechanism” and a “second communication mechanism.” Accordingly, in this context, the term “mechanism” is correctly expressed in the singular, and Applicants respectfully assert that changes to claim 17 are not necessary.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

The Examiner has rejected claim 15 because it recites a “dynamically created communication mechanism.” Claim 15 has been amended and no longer contains the term “dynamically created.” Accordingly, the rejection of claim 15 should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1, 5, 6, 15, 17 and 19 were rejected under 35 USC §112, Second Paragraph, because they contain the phrase “backup and/or restore.” As noted above, during the interview, it was agreed that the phrase “backup and/or restore” should be replaced by the phrase “backup and restore, or backup, or restore.” This change has been made in each claim that included the phrase “backup and/or restore.” Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 6 and 17 were rejected because they recite “a backup and/or restore operation” and do not further recite “the backup and/or restore operation.” The phrase “backup and/or restore” appeared in claims 1, 6 and 17 as a modifier on processes recited in those claims. Applicants respectfully submit that one of skill in the art would understand the connection between the backup and/or restore operation and the processes in conjunction with the other limitations in the claim. Accordingly, the claim is not vague or indefinite, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claim 6 because it recites in the preamble “with backup and/or restore operation” and the body of the claim recites “a backup and/or restore operation.” Claim 6 has been amended generally as suggested by the Examiner, and the rejection should be removed.

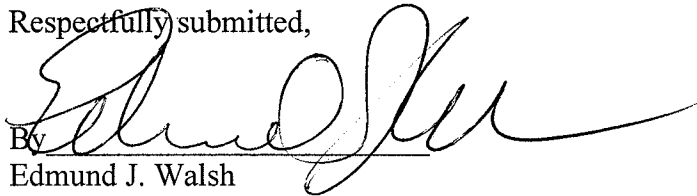
The Examiner rejected claim 19 because it contains the phrase “allows information to be transferred.” The claim has been amended to remove the term “allows.” Accordingly, the rejection should be removed.

During a telephone call to schedule an interview, the Examiner raised a further objection to the "means" clause in claim 1. Claim 1 has also been amended as requested by the Examiner.

Accordingly, Applicants have addressed all issues and respectfully request that the Application pass expeditiously to issuance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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